GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5432
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2002
DOHA CONFERENCE
GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pharmaceutical companies have expressed reservations on accrual of benefits gained from the Doha conference held in November last year:

(b) if so, the details thereof:

(c) whether the drug Manufacturers Association have also requested for the alteration of procedural difficulties in obtaining the compulsory licences:

(d) the other issues raised by the drug and pharma lobby; and

(e) the Government`s reaction thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI S. B. MOOKHERJEE)

(a)and (b): The Indian Pharmaceutical companies have raised several issuesrelating to Intellectual Property Rights including those raised at the Doha Conference. These include issues relating to compulsory licencing, parallel imports, definition of patentable inventions etc.

(c), (d) & (e): The drug manufacturers Association have made several representations to Joint Parliamentary Committee and Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion on various issues relating to the proposedamendment to the Indian Patent Law including the alteration of procedural difficulties in obtaining the compulsory licences. Adequate provisions have been incorporated in Patents Second (Amendment) Bill, 1999 to safeguard national and public interest including those relating to public health and nutrition.